

Mexico Not Membership

Oregon Says His Country Will Not Ask For Admission to League of Nations

Mexico City, Nov. 30. (By the Associated Press).—Mexico will not ask admission to the league of nations, but should an invitation to membership be extended by the league, it would be given consideration.

This decision was made by Gen. Alvaro Obregon, president-elect of the republic, in an interview today with the Associated Press, during which he discussed various problems that will demand his attention when he assumes the presidency at midnight tonight.

General Obregon said he was certain that the provisional government under President de la Huerta had requested such membership and it was the intention of his government to continue this policy of aloofness, his attitude being that Mexico, in making overtures for membership in the league would engage in a humiliating act entirely inconsistent with its traditional national pride.

The correspondent was received in General Obregon's home, adjacent to Chapultepec castle, the presidential residence where for several weeks the president-elect because of a slight indisposition has conducted his affairs. General Obregon, who is in the best of health now, prefaced his discussion of Mexican problems with an expression of gratitude for the courtesy shown him by the hundreds of American visitors who are in Mexico City for his inauguration.

"It indicates a better feeling between the two countries which will continue to grow," he said.

Petroleum regulations, the labor situation, radicalism and his proposed legislative projects were discussed.

"The greatest problem I face as the next Mexican executive is that of general reconstruction," said he. "I have reflected my attitude towards various problems in a series of projects which have already been submitted to congress for consideration."

"Of first interest to Americans of course is the oil problem and in this connection I might say that Article 14 and Article 27 will not be abrogated. But I am sure that within a short time a commission will be appointed to regulate the application of these articles."

"I do not intend to make any recommendations to congress regarding petroleum matters beyond urging that the commission be established and that all parties concerned be given fair and just treatment. I feel certain that this problem ultimately will be settled to the entire satisfaction of all concerned."

"One of Mexico's greatest problems at present is that of labor," said General Obregon. "I am positive that radicalism here is not so widespread that it constitutes a menace to the peace of Mexico. However, I do recognize that workers have a right to fight for the betterment of their conditions and my government will lend all possible aid to secure such betterment if the workers act within the law and order."

The president-elect recently submitted to congress a law which contemplates a system of pensions and insurance policies for employees who have grown old in service or who have become disabled as a result of their work. Certain wage increases are also proposed by the law.

Discussing another project recently submitted to congress on which he wishes to increase the responsibilities of the president and his aides, General Obregon declared that the constitution of 1917 delivered too much power to the chief executive without providing sufficient responsibilities and that it was the exercise of these almost tyrannical powers by Carranza that led to the revolution against him.

"I take the oath of office tonight with the profound feeling that I have an immense task before me," concluded the president-elect. "I shall strive to administer my office with due regard to justice for all abiding by the law and the constitution. With the cooperation of the country at large I hope to see unbroken peace and the prosperity of my country."

Steel Wire Reduced

Pittsburgh, Nov. 30.—The prices of steel wire products were cut here today for the first time in several years when the Pittsburgh Steel company announced a reduction of approximately 50 cents per hundred pounds, making the new quotations on wire nails, \$3.75 a keg and on plain wire \$2.25 a hundred pounds, f. o. b. Pittsburgh. Barbed wire, and fence staples were priced proportionately. Shipments of all unfilled orders beginning tomorrow will be invoiced at the new quotation.

The Transportation Problem.

New York, Nov. 30.—Discussion of transportation problems affecting the country will hold the center of interest at the annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in this city December 7-10. Transportation experts, headed by Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, will address the 2,500 members of the society who are expected to attend.

A statement issued by the society said that transportation is considered by the organization as the most pressing problem before the country. "The industry of the country is being seriously handicapped," said the statement. "From present indications, it will take several years for facilities to catch up with increased traffic and the normal development of the next few years."

In addition to purely railroad questions, the society members will consider waterway development and the greater use of motor vehicles for moving freight. A special report is expected on the St. Lawrence waterways project to make possible ocean traffic through to the Great Lakes.

Plans For

Joint Meeting of Agricultural Committees Called—Houston Will Be Invited

Washington, Dec. 1.—Possible remedial legislation for agricultural interests will be considered at a joint meeting of the agricultural committees of the senate and house next Thursday. The senate committee went over the situation today and invited the house committee members to meet with them at that time to see what could be done to alleviate the situation caused by falling prices for farm products.

Senate committee members said tentative suggestions for consideration included:

Revival of the war finance corporation and the opening of European markets for surplus products, some plan for extending credit to foreign nations and amendment of the federal reserve act to afford extension of credits on agricultural paper.

Senator Norris, Nebraska, said re-establishment of trade with Russia would be one means of relief. Senator France, Maryland, another member of the committee, plans to introduce a resolution for this purpose.

Senator Harrison, Mississippi, also a committee member, indicated that congressmen from cotton states were ready to join with those from wheat and cattle states in pushing relief legislation. The Mississippi senator said he wanted to see the war finance corporation revived and provision made for government loans to the agricultural interests.

"The government encouraged the farmers to make this crop, which was a very high cost of production, and the government ought to apply exceptional treatment to aid them," asserted Senator Harrison, who said he had bills to offer dealing with the problem if the joint committee session reached no definite program.

The senator said he would also favor making property in the hands of the alien property custodian, amounting to about \$100,000,000, basis for extending credit to Germany to purchase surplus American products.

The joint committee, it was said, will ask Secretary Houston, members of the federal reserve board and other officials of the government to be present.

Colby Leaves Saturday

Secretary of State Starts on Journey to South America

Washington, Dec. 2.—Secretary Colby plans to leave Norfolk Saturday aboard the battleship Florida for his South American visit.

RED CROSS SEALS.

What are you doing to make Sumter county "go over the top" in the tuberculosis drive? Are you willing for Colleton county to leave you so far behind in this race for good health? Why should the conditions in Darlington be better than they are in Sumter.

If we fail, whose fault is it? Yours. Buy health bonds and Christmas seals.

Every business house in Sumter will be asked to buy a health bond. When the canvass has been completed, the list of health bond subscribers will be published. We want you to see the names of your merchants and other business men and women in your town who are willing to help others who are in need.

Nov. 29, 1929.

Mrs. P. H. Otey, Sumter, S. C.

My dear Mrs. Otey: From Dr. C. H. Verner, chairman for Darlington county, comes the following message: "If you have them to spare please send me \$200 worth more of Christmas Seals. Everything looks good over here. I am sure we will 'go over the top' with some to spare."

We are sending this along to you more in the way of a challenge than anything else. Who will be the first county chairman to "go over the top?"

Please keep this office posted continually as to your progress so that we may spread the news to every county. We are confident of your success, and we will keep the faith.

Very sincerely,

J. Nelson Frierson, President.

Nov. 30, 1929.

Mrs. P. H. Otey, Sumter, S. C.

My dear Mrs. Otey: The following telegram has just been received: "Colleton county over the top first day of sale. Expect to double our quota."

"S. L. Turner."

The quota for Colleton county was \$500.

Very sincerely,

J. Nelson Frierson, President.

Spartanburg, Nov. 30.—The six year old son of David Helton, residing near Cowpens, in this county, was shot and mortally wounded yesterday by his nine year old brother.

According to witnesses to the tragedy, the accident was unavoidable. The older brother not knowing the gun was loaded. A neighboring boy had stopped at the Helton home and had set his gun beside the barn. The older Helton had picked it up and the weapon was almost instantly discharged, the entire load entering the smaller boy's head. The wounded boy died within a few hours.

Anderson, Nov. 30.—This morning at breakfast Miss Beanie Flawie was found in her room with a pistol shot through her heart. The family heard the shot and went at once to the room of the young woman and found her dead. Death resulted almost instantaneously. It is said the young lady has been suffering from a nervous strain for some weeks, and has been very dependent. The shot was fired from a pistol belonging to her father which she had found in their room after the father and mother had gone to breakfast.

act Penalty for Fares Paid On

Trains—Would Also Increase Switching Charge

Columbia, Dec. 1.—The railroads are endeavoring to put on a penalty for fares paid on railroad trains, where passengers board the trains at stations, where there are agents. Petition for this penalty was made of the interstate commerce commission, in Washington, at the hearing Monday, from which Chairman Frank Sheely, of the South Carolina railroad commission, returned Monday. Mr. Sheely stated today that the carriers are asking for a penalty of eighteen cents, fifteen cents on the present mileage basis, with three cents added, if the twenty per cent rate increase now pending for South Carolina is granted. The interstate commission, he said, will be under consideration. South Carolina is the only state in the southeast in which the railroads cannot charge this penalty for tickets purchased on the cars.

The railroads are also asking that the interstate commission fix the minimum railroad ticket cost at twelve cents, ten cents now and twenty per cent added if the fares are increased. The present minimum ticket charge is five cents.

Another matter the railroads are asking of the interstate commission, this having come out at the hearing in Washington, is for an increase in switching charges far in excess of the twenty per cent increase, according to Chairman Sheely. The roads asked the interstate commission to allow them to charge \$2.50 for switching in South Carolina, where they are now charging one dollar. The twenty per cent increase over the present charge, as asked for in the rate advance for the entire country, would make the switching charge \$1.20.

Chairman Sheely commented on the fact that the Piedmont & Northern, an electric line operating between Spartanburg and Greenville and between Greenville and Anderson and Greenwood, asked to be included in the rate advance, but is asking for a minimum rate of twelve cents, as compared with their present charge of five cents.

The South Carolina Railroad commission is opposing these increases, all of them being on intra-state business, charges for which are limited by state law. The I. C. C. holds that the state law is null and void where it conflicts with the national legislation. However, Attorney General Wolfe is planning to enjoin the railroads from putting the higher charges into effect, thus making it necessary for the courts to decide whether or not the increase of rates is lawful.

A Whale With Hind Legs.

New York, Nov. 30.—Capture off the coast of British Columbia of a remarkable humpback whale with two hind limbs became known here recently when the bones of the unique appendages arrived at the American Museum of Natural History. Scientists attached to the museum thumbed their noses at evolution, judged their brains and concluded the legs might have been a singular reversion to primitive type.

Back in prehistoric ages, they said, the multiglanded granddads of modern whales may have strutted about on land. But, so far as they knew, no other whale with bones outside the body had ever been seen by man.

There was no earthly or watery reason for the rear legs on the whale found off the British Columbia coast. It couldn't walk on them, as they were but four-foot long, while the whale weighed several tons. It couldn't use them for swimming, as they were not flippers, nor were the podal extremities webbed. They were simply excess baggage.

But now they are the subject of lectures, lantern slides and profound discussion.

"THESE AMERICANS."

Paris, Dec. 1.—Sadi Lecoq, the winner of the Gordon Bennett cup race for aviators was just ready to go up from the Rue Aviation field the other day when an American woman stepped up and asked:

"Won't you take me up?" "Surely," replied Sadi, "where do you want to go?"

"To Gambals, I do wish to see that Landru villa." Sadi obliged, landing within 100 feet of the villa made famous by the disappearance of 11 women to whom Landru had promised marriage. When she left she carried away a souvenir in the shape of a piece of rabbit bone found in the yard.

"Nothing is sacred to these Americans," Landru said when he heard of the occurrence.

Columbia, Nov. 30.—Several hundred life insurance agents of South Carolina are expected to attend the state convention of the Life Underwriters Association, to be held in Columbia during December. The dates for the convention had been set for the early part of the month, but a conflict with another gathering has caused a postponement, and the exact date will be announced in a few days.

Orville Thorpe, of Dallas, Texas, president of the National Life Underwriters Association, will attend this convention and deliver an address. Other prominent men will feature the program, the theme of which will be the relation of the life insurance business to present-day conditions. Several prominent South Carolinians will take part on the program, the complete outline of which will be announced in a few days according to Will Gibbs, secretary of organization. The meeting will be the biggest in the history of the state association, according to Mr. Gibbs.

Invitations to this gathering are being sent to approximately 1500 life insurance agents in the state.

Urging Tobacco as Substitute

For Cotton Planting

The Sumter Chamber of Commerce is urging planting of tobacco for 1921 as an important substitute cash crop for cotton. Tobacco is certainly as profitable a crop as cotton although neither of these products have proved very profitable this year. But times and conditions are never the same for any great length of time, and as the cotton acreage will be forcibly and greatly reduced next year, tobacco seems to be the best understood cash crop for the masses of the farmers. Many farmers, however, made good profits on tobacco this year. That proves there is money in tobacco. It is thought that every farmer, large and small, should certainly try limited acreages of tobacco during 1921. The banks, supply merchants, land owners, and all business men should advocate tobacco for the coming year. Nearly every farmer knows something, and hundreds are experienced tobacco growers on a profitable scale.

The annual free distribution of tobacco seed is of more importance this fall than ever before. Heretofore Moore Brothers and other lessees of the Farmers' Tobacco warehouse company building have supplied the Sumter Chamber of Commerce with all the seed necessary for free distribution because the buying of tobacco seed in small quantities is not only very expensive but the majority of tobacco growers know not where to order seed, and will not bother to order seed for preparing and planting their tobacco beds which are planted during December and January, most of the beds being planted in December.

Secretary Reardon has taken up with Messrs. R. K. and Lee Knott, the lessees for 1921 of the Farmers' Tobacco warehouse company's building the matter of supplying seed as there is no lessee for the Farmers' Tobacco warehouse for 1921 as yet, although there are several applicants for same.

It has been customary for many years on every South Carolina tobacco market for the warehouses to supply free tobacco seed. Thousands of farmers expect this custom to continue and hundreds will not bother to order seed themselves. Purchasing seed in wholesale lots from the most reliable seed houses insures the very best of seed at greatly reduced cost over individual purchases, and its free distribution by the Chamber of Commerce during the past six years has greatly encouraged the planting of tobacco.

If the Messrs. Knotts do not agree to supply the seed then some means of securing seed must be arranged for or there will be either great curtailment of tobacco acreage or Sumter's tobacco warehouse customers will secure their seed from other tobacco markets. Hundreds of packages of tobacco seed are annually mailed out from the Sumter Chamber of Commerce and about two thousand farmers annually apply at the organization's offices for seed. Something should undoubtedly be done immediately to secure the necessary amount of seed for free distribution.

The Sumter tobacco market will be equipped next summer with the most modern equipped tobacco stemmery and steam drying plant in South Carolina, and the China-American Tobacco and Trading company have their machinery stored in Sumter for months awaiting the completion of the stemmery buildings which will be finished in ample time for next year's crop as only a little remains to be done to make the buildings ready for the necessary machinery. About five hundred hands will be employed for from seven to ten months next year, and possibly for twelve months owing to the size of the tobacco crop. This insures about a twenty per cent increase in local prices for tobacco, and creates additional competition not heretofore enjoyed here, and guarantees the keeping open of the 1921 tobacco season indefinitely and farmers will have more time to put their tobacco in marketable shape and to hold as long as possible.

The cutting of the acreage in North Carolina, Virginia and other tobacco states by association efforts to insure higher prices, will help South Carolina prices it is believed if our tobacco is properly cured to color and clean when marketed. The curing is the biggest factor in getting big prices.

Trade Wages in New York.

New York, Nov. 30.—Average earnings in this city's representative trades in September 1929, were double what they were six years ago and, generally, \$2 a week higher than they were a year ago, according to a report prepared by the Industrial Bureau of the Merchants' association. The report declares that, while the city's industrial activity has receded somewhat from the high water mark established during the war, there is no indication of a general slump in manufacturing. Charts giving the average weekly earnings of workmen, combining both office and shop employees, for September, 1914, 1919 and 1929, show, for the above named years respectively:

Stone, clay and glass products: \$13.96, \$26.58, \$35.11. Metals, machinery and conveyances, \$14.50, \$27.21, \$30.67. Wood manufacturers, \$12.49, \$24.26, \$28.42. Fur, leather and rubber goods, \$11.77, \$27.09, \$26.43. Chemicals, oils and paints, \$13.67, \$24.79, \$27.09. Printing and paper goods, \$15.58, \$27.36, \$31.28. Textiles, \$9.72, \$21.03, \$24.79. Clothing, millinery, laundry, etc., \$12.40, \$27.68, \$26.46. Food, liquors and tobacco, \$11.69, \$23.40, \$26.04. Water, light and power, \$15.79, \$30.91, \$35.59. The general average of these industries for the three years runs, \$12.06, \$26.17 and \$28.44.

Toronto, Dec. 2.—An excavation is being made under the Grand Theatre in a search for the body of Ambrose J. Small, a long missing and wealthy theatrical manager.

Will Represent Section in Football Contest

Columbia, Dec. 2.—The committee from the extension department of the University of South Carolina, charged with the duty of naming representatives of the two sections in South Carolina football to meet in a game in Columbia to decide the state championship, met yesterday and decided that Charleston high school shall represent the lower half. It is expected that an announcement within the next few days will give details of the big game.

The committee also took occasion to explain that some misapprehension seems to exist as to the mode of procedure under which a game was ordered between Charleston and Sumter schools before declaring the Charleston lads the winners for the southern section. A member of the committee pointed out yesterday that the committee's duty is to select the best teams to meet from the two sections of the state. Schedules are not arranged calculated to assist the committee, it seems, and the work of picking the most representative team of each section is thus rendered difficult. Although Charleston had not lost a contest, it had played fewer games than several other contenders. It was presented to the committee that the Charleston team had played but three representative games. Sumter with a long list of games won had lost and tied its opening games but afterwards piled up large scores against a number of good teams. The committee's sole thought was to name the best team. The result of the season's play left the question much in doubt and a game was, therefore, ordered between Charleston and Sumter, Charleston winning a terrific battle, 6 to 0. Camden, although losing only one game, was defeated by Columbia which in turn was twice defeated by Charleston. Camden's claim for consideration was also hurt by its action in forfeiting the game to Columbia.

Meals Served for 17 Cents.

New York, Nov. 30.—Delegates to the convention of the National Hotel association here couldn't believe that only 15 minutes from the tip of Manhattan tempting meals are served for exactly 17 cents each. So Frederick A. Wallis, immigration commissioner on Ellis Island, invited doubters on a tour of culinary inspection, just to show how they do it on Uncle Sam's doorstep.

A number of the hotel men, who say they are intent on bringing down the cost of tavern fare, accepted the commissioner's invitation, with the idea of infusing some of the Ellis Island method into the conduct of their own kitchens.

"For particulars," said the commissioner, "see MacGowan." The secret of reducing the costliness of provender as it appears, steaming and succulent, on the dinner table, is a mystery, but MacGowan, D. T. MacGowan, caterer on the island, is on the inside. His explanation runs: "Purchases on a lowest bid basis, quantity production, and profits never more than 1.95 per cent on the monthly investment; result, 17 cent dinners."

And when someone interposed that MacGowan "couldn't serve a 'regular' meal for 17 cents," he exhibited, as a sample menu, the following:

Breakfast: rice with milk, stewed prunes, bread and butter and coffee with two lumps of sugar to the cup.


Dinner: English beef soup with barley, Irish stew with vegetables, tapioca pudding and coffee.

Supper: Lamb hash, green peppers, bread and butter, blackberry jelly, coffee and tea.

New York, Dec. 2.—Jose Stecher, the world's heavyweight wrestling champion, has announced that he expects to retire from wrestling after this season.

Anderson, Nov. 30.—The body of John T. McNeely was found today in a clump of woods near his home with the head almost blown entirely off by a shot gun. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that he had come to his death by a gunshot wound from his own hand. Mr. McNeely is a well known farmer of the Bushy Creek section and owns farming lands in Anderson and in Greenville counties.

Innsbruck, Austria, Nov. 30.—Leonhard Kirschbaumer, while on trial for wife-beating, leaped from the prisoner's box, stabbed and killed his wife in the courtroom and wounded seriously, the presiding judge and the prosecuting attorney.




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man of Sumach.
The question of Premier White, Derbyshire, who fact that Holland of the council would trial, and, in the event, would arrange to be tried in his absence, promise that he would London might be fulfilled.
A written reply was made by Bonar Law, leader of the government, to the effect that the government was not to adopt this suggestion."

Spaniards Want Land Profiteers

Madrid, Nov. 30.—Alleged profiteering by landowners has aroused agitation here for a tax on the increases in land values. A writer in the newspaper La Libertad, accuses proprietors of rapacity in increasing the prices at which they held the farm lands and of taking advantage of the high cost of home-grown goods brought about by the advance freight rates on the foreign products. He says they have advanced the land prices to five and six times former values without paying anything into the national treasury as a tax on the appreciation.

An instance is cited in which a owner sold one farm at nine times the price paid for it five years ago. The newspaper writer declares that these large increases have cost the landowner practically nothing, but asserts that it is high time a law taxing the increase on land values should be established in Spain, modeled after those in Germany, Canada and Australia.

ENGLISHMAN LECTURES ON AMERICA

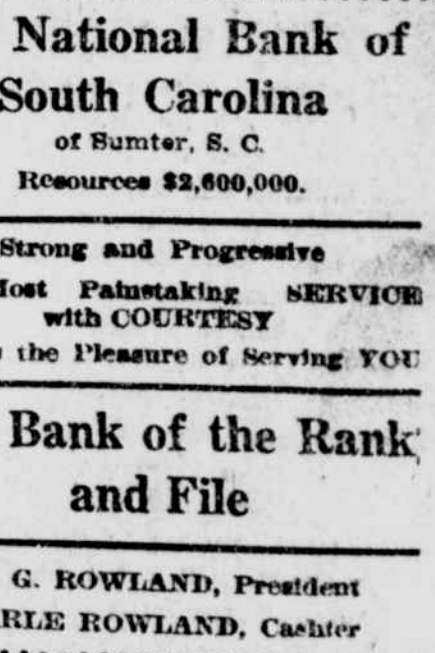
London, Dec. 1.—H. W. Nevins, a well-known journalist, lecturing on "America" at the National Liberal club here, said his visit to the United States had upset nearly all his preconceived notions about Americans.

He said he found Americans most polite, very kind and hospitable and only too ready to take trouble for others. He did not find them particularly business-like, and hard-working. One thing that struck him as terrible was the individual subservience to the state and the tendency of the police to dominate everything and he gave instances of what he regarded as savage sentences of ten years' imprisonment on a "perfectly innocent and harmless gentleman," and of 15 years upon a girl of 20, who had distributed a pamphlet urging American soldiers not to fight against Russia.

There was no real political labor party in America, which was 40 years behind England in that matter. Concerning anti-English feeling in America, he said he was constantly confronted by the shame of British treatment of Ireland and he confessed that when he found the house of commons jeering at dying men, and heaping insults on a country struggling for political freedom, it was almost like going home and seeing his own mother drunk on the floor.

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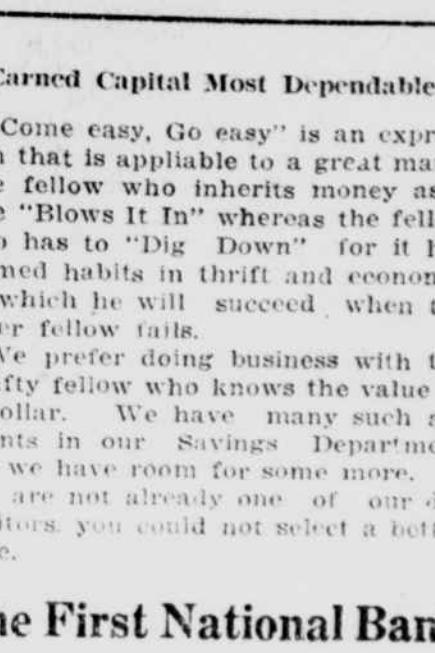


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